

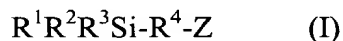
A5
→The silicic acid ULTRASIL VN3 GR from Degussa AG has a BET surface area of 175 m²/g. TESP (bis(3-[triethoxysilyl]propyl)disulfane) of Comparative Example 1 is prepared according to patent D 195 414 04. The silane of Example 2, bis(3-[dimethylethoxysilyl]propyl)disulfane, is prepared according to the state of the art by the hydrosilylation of chlorodimethylsilane with allyl chloride, followed by ethanolysis and sulfurization analogously to the process indicated in patent D 197 342 95 A1.

See the attached Appendix for the changes made to effect the above paragraphs.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claims:

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Sub C1
1. (Amended) Rubber mixtures, comprising organosilanes of the general structure



wherein R^1 , R^2 and R^3 independently of one another are H, (C₁-C₄)alkyl, (C₁-C₄)alkoxy or halogen and the number of alkyl groups is ≥ 1 ; R^4 is a linear or branched (C₁-C₁₈)divalent hydrocarbon group; and Z = H, halogen, SCN, SH or S_x-R⁴-SiR¹R²R³, where x is 2 to 10.

5. (Amended) Rubber mixtures according to Claim 4, wherein the organosilanepolysulfane is a silane in which:

R^1 = ethoxy or methoxy, $R^2 = R^3$ = methyl, R^4 = propylene or isobutylene and Z = S_x-R⁴-SiR¹R²R³, where x has a statistical mean value of 2 to 4.

6. (Amended) Rubber mixtures according to Claim 1, wherein the organosilane is a silane in which:

R^1 = ethoxy or methoxy, $R^2 = R^3$ = methyl and R^4 = linear or branched (C₁-C₁₈)divalent hydrocarbon group.

7. (Amended) Rubber mixtures according to Claim 1, comprising a synthetic rubber, a silicic acid as filler and an organosilanepolysulfane selected from the group consisting of bis(3-{dimethylethoxysilyl}propyl)tetrasulfane and bis(3-{dimethylethoxysilyl}propyl)-disulfane.

8. (Amended) Rubber mixtures according to Claim 1, comprising a synthetic rubber, a silicic acid as filler and an organosilanepolysulfane selected from the group consisting of bis(3-{dimethylethoxysilyl}propyl)tetrasulfane and bis(3-{dimethylethoxysilyl}propyl)-disulfane, and an alkylsilane other than said organosilanepolysulfane.

9. (Amended) Process for the preparation of rubber mixture comprising at least one filler in addition to the rubber, said process comprising adding an organosilane polysulfane according to claim 1 in said rubber mixture.

10. (Amended) Process for the preparation of rubber mixtures which contain at least one filler in addition to the rubber, comprising adding an organosilanepolysulfane according to Claim 1 and an organoalkylsilane.

12. (Amended) A pneumatic tire comprising the molding according to claim 11.

13. (Amended) A tire tread comprising the molding according to claim 11.

See the attached Appendix for the changes made to effect the above claims.

Please add the following new claims:

15. (New) A rubber mixture comprising rubber and organosilane of formula (I)



wherein R^1 , R^2 and R^3 independently of one another are H, (C_1-C_4) alkyl, (C_1-C_4) alkoxy or halogen and the number of alkyl groups is ≥ 1 ; R^4 is a linear or branched (C_1-C_{18}) alkylidene-group; and $Z = H$, halogen, SCN, SH or $S_x-R^4-SiR^1R^2R^3$, where x is 2 to 10;

wherein the organosilane is mixed with the rubber in unsupported form or supported on a carrier selected from the group consisting of silicic acids, natural silicates, synthetic silicates and aluminum oxide.

16. (New) Rubber mixture according to claim 15, wherein the organosilane is bis(3-{dimethylethoxysilyl}propyl)tetrasulfane or bis(3-{dimethylethoxysilyl}propyl)-disulfane.

17. (New) Rubber mixture according to claim 16, further comprising an alkylsilane other than said organosilane.

18. (New) A molding obtained from the rubber mixture of claim 15.

19. (New) A pneumatic tire comprising a molding according to claim 18.

20. (New) A tire tread comprising a molding according to claim 18.